What is claimed is:

1.   An image processing apparatus comprising:

image entering means for reading slice data;

image processing means for being supplied with slice data

5   read by said image entering means and processing the supplied slice data

into reconstructed image data; and

memory means for storing data;

said memory means comprising:

slice data storage means for storing slice data supplied to said

10   image processing means; and

reconstructed image data storage means for storing recon-

structed image data produced by said image processing means;

said image processing means comprising:

significance detecting means for determining whether the slice

15   data stored in said slice data storage means is of significance or not;

moved distance/tilt calculating means for calculating a moved

distance and tilt of the slice data that has been detected as being of signifi-

cance by said significance detecting means; and

reconstructed image data generating means for calculating po-

20   sitional coordinates of a reconstructed image area to which said slice data is

to be projected, based on the moved distance and tilt of the slice data which

has been calculated by said moved distance/tilt calculating means, and gen-

erating reconstructed image data.

25   2.   An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said image processing means comprises means for starting processing the

slice data if the slice data is determined to be of significance by said signifi-
cance detecting means, and ending processing the slice data if the slice data
is determined to be of no significance by said significance detecting means.

5   3.   An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said moved distance/tilt calculating means comprises means for calculating
an overall moved distance and tilt of the slice data by determining relative
positions of a plurality of moved distance detecting windows provided for the
slice data.

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4.   An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said reconstructed image data generating means comprises means for divid-
ing each pixel of the slice data into fragments at a ratio of occupied areas
with respect to a maximum of four pixels of said reconstructed image area
15   onto which each pixel of the slice data is to be projected, and distributing the
divided fragments to the pixels of said reconstructed image area, thereby
generating the reconstructed image data.

5.   An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
20   said image entering means comprises a fingerprint reading sensor.

6.   An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said image entering means comprises a sensor for use with a hand scanner.

25   7.   An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said image entering means comprises a line sensor.

8.   A method of processing an image, comprising the steps of:

storing slice data read by an image entering unit;

detecting significance of the stored slide data;

calculating a moved distance and tilt of the slide data which

has been detected as being of significance;

calculating positional coordinates of a reconstructed image

area to which said slice data is to be projected, based on the moved distance

and tilt of the slice data which have been calculated, and generating recon-

structed image data; and

storing the generated reconstructed image data.

9.   A program for enabling a computer to process an image,

comprising:

a first instruction set storing slice data read by an image enter-

ing unit;

a second instruction set for detecting significance of the stored

slide data;

a third instruction set for calculating a moved distance and tilt

of the slide data which has been detected as being of significance;

a fourth instruction set for calculating positional coordinates of

a reconstructed image area to which said slice data is to be projected, based

on the moved distance and tilt of the slice data which have been calculated,

and generating reconstructed image data; and

a fifth instruction set for storing the generated reconstructed

image data in a memory.